

**MEETING OF THE
WINNEBAGO COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES BOARD**

Minutes

DATE: Monday, February 7, 2022

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Virtual Meeting via Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT: Larry Lautenschlager, Mike Norton, Jerry Finch, Chris Kniep, Karen Powers, Harold Singstock, Donna Lohry, Bryan Stafford

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Ralph Harrison

STAFF PRESENT: Bill Topel, Renee Soroko, Janet Rohloff, Beth Roberts, Ann Kriegel, Annette Beattie, Heather Foust, Tammy Steier and Pam Bartelt

Chairman Larry Lautenschlager called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM #1: PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no comments.

PROGRAM #2: SCHOOL COLLABORATION

Heather Foust, Behavioral Health (BH) Division Manager, shared information on collaboration efforts with the larger school districts in Winnebago County. One method is *teaming* where the case managers communicate with designated school personnel on a regular basis through monthly team meetings. The meetings include school staff, providers, parents, the child and their informal supports and brings everyone together to provide support to the student and their family. Goals are established and then discussed as a team. These meetings have enhanced the relationship between the school and parent(s) and informs the school district of service provision sharing ideas and outcomes.

Annette Beattie, Child Welfare (CW) Division Manager, mentioned that CW is sometimes involved in the teaming process with BH and LTS. They also collaborate where the point of entry is different. Schools sometimes refer youth for things such as: truancy, when a student is involved in a delinquent act, youth who need additional help, abuse or neglect. CW staff will complete an assessment and collaboration to team with school staff to set goals and plans to best support youth in their education. Both Neenah and Oshkosh schools have a *Bridges Truancy Program* which supports youth in getting to school and focusing on their school work. This program is based on support, not punishment.

Beth Roberts, Long Term Support (LTS) Division Manager, discussed partnering when issues are anticipated or schools may be struggling with a certain situation. Human Services staff meet with school staff to brainstorm options, resources and solutions. Our supervisors will meet with principals, social workers or key staff to present who we are and what we are able to assist with. This provides the schools with a list of specific contacts at our agency if a situation does need a team effort. Annette, Heather and Beth meet with the Pupil Services Directors from Omro, Neenah, Menasha, Oshkosh and Winneconne every six weeks where they address more of the system specific issues and how they can best support each other in meeting children and family needs.

AGENDA ITEM #3: APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 5, 2022 HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING

Karen Powers moved for approval of these minutes; seconded by Mike Norton and carried unanimously. (6-0)

AGENDA ITEM #4: ACCEPT MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 10, 2022 ADRC COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Harold Singstock moved for acceptance of these minutes; seconded by Mike Norton and carried unanimously. (6-0)

AGENDA ITEM #5: INPATIENT & INSTITUTIONAL PLACEMENT STATISTICS

Bill Topel reviewed placement statistics: Child Welfare (CW) Division – Juvenile Corrections remains at 0.0 Actual Daily Populations (ADP). Residential Care Centers are at 2.0 ADP. Behavioral Health (BH) - Specialty Hospitals for adults is at 3.2 ADP with the youth being at 0.3 ADP. Secure Detention is at 1.4 ADP. Foster Care is at 80.9 ADP.

AGENDA ITEM # 6: FINANCIAL REPORT

Janet Rohloff mentioned that final numbers are not yet available. The projected surplus is expected to be \$4.5 - \$5 million. A year end financial report should be available for the April 2022 meeting.

Bryan Stafford joined the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM #7: DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Renee Soroko reported current vacancies being at 22 positions which includes project positions: ADMIN has 6 vacancies; BH has 8 vacancies; CW has 8 vacancies. Staff vacancies by position, along with job descriptions, can be found here:

<https://www.co.winnebago.wi.us/human-resources/employment-opportunities>

Jerry Finch joined the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM #8: DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Bill shared the 2022 WCHSA Spring Conference has been changed to a virtual meeting and will take place near the end of April. More information to come. You can also check the WCHSA website: <https://wchsa.org/>

The Day by Day Warming Shelter of Oshkosh is the only local homeless shelter that accepts consumers between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. Recently, one person has died and one person has lost their foot due to not having available shelter overnight. We have increased our contracted amount to provide ten additional hotel rooms per night, depending on the warming shelters capacity and need. It can be more without prior authorization if/when needed This is a temporary measure through April 1st and is not a yearly commitment. The executive director of the shelter will monitor the need daily and send weekly census reports.

Bill followed up on the reserve fund request for the Human Services Department. tabled from August 2021 board meeting to be brought back to the March 2022 agenda. After reviewing historic trends of Winnebago County and looking at practices of other Wisconsin counties, the Human Services Department is recommending we do not pursue a reserve fund at this time. The rationale is that should additional funds be needed, the process to enact a budget adjustment is essentially the same if funds are requested from the General Fund or if they are requested from the special reserve fund. There is no benefit process-wise in creating a separate fund as approvals to transfer monies into the operating budget remains the same. The current system is designed to allow for budget adjustments if the situation warrants this action.

AGENDA ITEM #9: BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Jerry Finch expressed his appreciation of the board members and staff for the discussions and presentations that help in understanding the needs of the county as his term comes to an end in April.

Mike Norton mentioned a couple articles that may be of interest to staff and board members from NACo - County News Hot Topics and would welcome any feedback or comments on anything similar being done in the area. *Counties Helping Children Reach Higher; Family Stabilization Unit Breaks Down Barriers for Better Living.*

With no further business Karen Powers moved for adjournment; seconded by Mike Norton and carried at 4:10 p.m. The next meeting will be held on **Monday, March 7, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. via Zoom.**

Respectfully submitted by Pam Bartelt, Human Services Department/pb